Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-89-201 *19 October 1989*

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Cuba

Nation Elected Member of UN Security Council

FL1810190789 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] With more than the required two-thirds vote, the Republic of Cuba today was elected by the General Assembly to be a member of the UN Security Council. Cuba's candidacy was proposed by Peru on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean nations and it was approved with 146 votes in favor out of a possible 136 votes [as heard].

Zaire and the Ivory Coast for Africa, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen for Asia, and Romania for Eastern Europe were also elected nonpermanent members for a 2-year period.

According to diplomats accredited to the United Nations, the United States was not able to prevent the international community on this occasion from recognizing the positive role played by Cuba's foreign policy. It was reported that upon Cuba's imminent victory today, a U.S. State Department spokesman told the press that he expected Cuba to play a constructive role in ending regional conflicts.

Since the triumph of the revolution in 1959, this is the first time that the government of Havana has been a member of the UN Security Council, which is comprised of 15 members, 5 of whom—the United States, France, USSR, UK, and China—are permanent members.

Malmierca on Election to Council

FL1910020889 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0008 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca by reporter Isidoro Fardales of Radio Habana Cuba during "Exclusivo" program on 18 October—recorded]

[Text] [Fardales] As you know, our country has been elected a nonpermanent member of the UN Security Council for a period of 2 years. For that reason, we contacted the Cuban permanent headquarters at the United Nations to discuss this with our Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca.

Mr Minister, what can you tell us about this recognition that Cuba has received. And what does it mean, keeping in mind that since 1959, the United States has been blocking our country from this possibility?

[Malmierca] We feel that this is a recognition of the role and positions that Cuba and President Fidel Castro have maintained for the defense of the peoples of the Third World in the fight for their independence, peace, and development. It also shows the changes that have taken place in the international situation, especially in our region, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Undoubtedly, a precedent to the results of today's election was the decision of the Latin American and Caribbean group to endorse Cuba's nomination for that post. Cuba was the only candidate from our region; it had the support of all the countries from our region to be part of the Security Council.

I think this shows the positive changes, transformations, that are taking place in our region where the will for national independence is growing, as well as the need for awareness, the need for unity, for becoming closer, and for relations of all sorts among our states. Those relations have always been very strong and very close among our peoples. I think all these factors were present in the result of this election. I also think that it implies a recognition of the constructive role that Cuba has played in the development of various international negotiations. This is evident especially in the negotiations that have taken place in southwest Africa, when, after the victory of Cuito Cuanavale, negotiations began for the application of UN Resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia and for the creation of peace and security in southwest Africa. I think that all these factors have played a role in Cuba's election to the council. I think it has also been done in recognition of the country, of the role that our internationalist workers and combatants have carried out—they, who have known how to defend our revolution and support a process in any part of the world as was necessary. I also believe it has been done in recognition of the other exponents of our country—the artists, athletes—those who at any moment have contributed to the role that our fatherland has played throughout all these years. I think that all this must be kept in mind when assessing the result of this election.

New Television Installations Become Operational

FL1810191089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1400 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Two new technical installations for the broadcast of television signals in Havana have been put into operation by the Communications Ministry as part of the plans to improve television coverage.

Residents of Playa del Este and nearby towns can now receive Tele-Rebelde programming—channel 2—with better quality by tuning in channel 4 on their television sets. A few days ago, channel 13 was put into operation and has begun to broadcast Tele-Rebelde programming to Alamar and other areas of Habana del Este Municipality.

Haiti

Assemblage Planning 'National Demonstration'

FL1810140089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Text] The National Assemblage, which consists of all the union and people's organizations and political parties that (?are) mobilized on the problems of insecurity and the high cost of living, as well as on that contract that

constitutes a plot between General Avril and the International Monetary Fund, calls everyone's attention to the government's bad faith and inability to confront the political and social crisis ravaging the nation, says a communique issued by the Assemblage.

The communique also says: Protests against the high cost of living and insecurity! What is the government's response? A high cost of living anyway, and even more insecurity! Instead of arrests and trials, there is intimidation and dead bodies. There is no protection whatsoever for people's lives and property in Haiti. Hunger and poverty are ravaging both rural and urban areas. Rapacious (?people's) vices and corruption at the expense of the state offer no hope that the nation's financial crisis will be solved under the provisional government of Gen Avril. The disappearance of military discipline has transformed certain Army sectors into groups of bandits that endanger the security of Haitians.

The National Assemblage considers Haiti's situation extremely serious. Therefore, the Assemblage has decided to envision a great national demonstration, so that the Haitian people, the nation's only sovereign, can make their decision on the nation's issues.

This was a communique from the group called National Assemblage, which was formed right after the 27 September strike. The group is made up of the different organizations that called for the 27 September strike.

Deadline Ignored; Joint Action Requested

FL1810140289 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Text] A declaration from the coalition made up of the Mobilization for National Development [MDN], Movement for the Organization of the Country [MOP], and National Agricultural and Industrial Party [PAIN] says that noon yesterday, 16 October, was the deadline they had given the government and the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] to change the electoral calendar they issued. The government and the CEP said absolutely nothing about this.

Consequently, say the MDN, MOP, and PAIN, the time for total mobilization has come. The coalition, therefore, calls on the other political parties struggling for change; the nation's socioprofessional, union, popular, peasants, and religious organizations; and the people of the towns and hills to come together for a joint action within the limits allowed by democracy. The date of this action will be announced later.

This statement is signed by the MDN, the MOP, and the PAIN.

CEP Memorandum Termed 'Confidential'

FL1810133189 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1600 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Excerpts] In a confidential memorandum addressed to the members of the Permanent Electoral Council [CEP], one of the CEP members, Dr Joseph (Lesperance), has put forth suggestions that would led to unfettered, honest,and open nationwide elections soon in Haiti. Among the points brought up in this memorandum is the CEP's lack of credibility in the eyes of the public; the inadequacy of the electoral calendar, (?which is) outside certain administrative norms; the distribution of responsibilities among the CEP members; and the programming of the activities. [passage omitted]

Dr (Lesperance) also made other recommendations to the CEP members, such as that they write up job descriptions drawing their inspiration from the norms established by the law governing the organization and functioning of the Haitian public administration and then make them public through the press. Such initiatives would prevent nepotism and free the current members of the CEP from administrative and financial work, thus preventing the institution from becoming the target of gratuitous criticism, concluded Dr (Lesperance) in his confidential memo of 6 October to the members of the CEP.

PRI, PAN Agree on Constitutional Reforms

PA1910014789 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Text] It has come to our attention that the constitutional reforms were approved at the Chamber of Deputies, 346 votes to 70. Without a doubt, a new milestone in Mexican policy has been set. The Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] and the National Action Party [PAN] agreed to approve the reforms, even though they have traditionally been opponents. Everyone knows that the PRI and the PAN have opposed each other more than once. We are not saying this alliance means there is a new element in politics, but we must admit both parties are reaching political maturity. The PAN and the PRI have adopted similar positions, and if they do this there is no reason why people should not support their decision. They have expressed their agreement with this process and they have made it clear.

Two political parties have agreed on similar points regarding the constitutional and electoral reform process, and that is all there is to it.

Those viewers who are interested in these types of issues and those who have followed the electoral reform issue should read the front-page article in EL NACIONAL newspaper, which includes statements made by PAN leader Abel Vicencio Tovar giving his opinion.

Tovar said something which we believe is important and should be pointed out. He said the decision made by the PAN is not the result of temporary enthusiasm. He said it is the logical result of an entire social, political, and electoral process that began when the PAN presented its platform to the public in 1988, explaining the fundamental objectives of a party at the people's service.

However, we also have the other side of the coin. Several parties, such as the Cardenist Front for National Reconstruction Party, the Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution, the Popular Socialist Party, and the Party of the Democratic Revolution voted against the reforms.

Over two-thirds of the chamber approved the reforms. The PRI alone could not have approved the reforms, because it does not have a two-thirds majority. That is why the unity of the PAN and the PRI increased the possibilities for the reforms to be approved.

The matter will continue to be discussed, but we already have a new instrument to better understand the electoral process and to allow for a greater participation of citizens.

Costa Rica

President Arias Tries To Save Salvadoran Talks

PA1810145589 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] In an effort to save the negotiations between the Salvadoran guerrillas and the government, President Oscar Arias arrived at the pastoral residence of the Clarist nuns at 1955 on 17 October.

The president said that he was there to encourage the two parties to continue the dialogue because a few hours are not enough to achieve peace after 10 years of war.

Arias said bringing peace to a country, which has been shaken by violence for many years, is a slow process; however, I still believe that negotiations will someday silence the weapons.

President Arias said that there is no substitute for dialogue and added that 28 million Central Americans, especially nearly 7 million Salvadorans, hate violence. As for claims that there has been no progress, Arias said that the fact that the parties have exchanged their views for so many hours and are willing to continue holding talks are in themselves signs of progress.

He pointed out that people cannot complain about a lack of progress when very lofty goals, such as a cease-fire or ending hostilities are pursued; however, we must understand that this is a slow process.

President Arias said that the solution to the Salvadoran conflict will not be easy. After 70,000 dead, scores of problems, and developments such as the ones that took place this morning, we cannot expect a solution in a few hours.

Nevertheless, he pointed out that despite the violent actions in El Salvador on the morning of 17 October, nobody left the negotiating table [words indistinct].

President Arias said that it is necessary to ensure that the parties will continue negotiating and [words indistinct].

El Salvador

Government-FMLN Negotiations in San Jose End

Agree To Meet Monthly

PA1810203489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1825 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 18 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—The Salvadoran Government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] today agreed to institutionalize the dialogue, and to meet in other countries every month despite the disagreements between the two sides.

Although the government could not convince the guerrillas to lay down their weapons and return to political life and the FMLN could not succeed in securing from the authorities "true guarantees" for democratization and security prior to ending the armed struggle, the protagonists of the dialogue seemed satisfied at the end of the meeting.

Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, San Salvador auxiliary bishop and mediator in the talks, told ACAN - EFE that last night's meeting was "difficult yet fruitful" after Costa Rican President Oscar Arias visited the convent, site of the meeting.

Arias met for a while on 17 October with the delegation members and the mediators at the St Clare convent, where the dialogue is taking place, and succeeded in unblocking the meeting, which had bogged down in the morning, according to Rosa Chavez.

Arias, who was awarded the 1987 Nobel Prize for his peace efforts in Central America, said while leaving the meeting with the negotiators and mediators on 17 October that he was moved to intervene because he wanted to "encourage the sides to keep negotiating."

Arias stressed the difficulty in finding a rapid solution for a problem of violence that has lasted 10 years and killed more than 70,000 people. He pointed out that "there is still willingness to seek peaceful ways to end this bloody confrontation."

According to the information available, both sides are willing to "go over some ideas," presented in this meeting, and keep elaborating on them in the context of the Salvadoran situation.

Regarding the cessation of hostilities, which was mentioned as the main point early in the meeting but has not yet been approved because of a disagreement between the sides, an accord was finally reached to "clarify" the meaning of the phrase.

According to FMLN spokesman Jesus Rojas, the government delegation has continued to indicate that "it has no decisionmaking ability" and this has caused uncertainty in the negotiations.

Cesar Marti, another FMLN member, said "substantial accords" have not been anticipated, but the "the dialogue has been saved."

Rosa Chavez said the meeting, the second since direct contacts were resumed in Mexico City in September ends today.

Today it will be announced where and when the third meeting will be held, perhaps in Caracas, although the rebels insist that the meeting site should be San Salvador.

Administration To Continue Efforts

PA1810230089 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 2114 GMT 18 Oct 89

["Official communique" issued by the Salvadoran Government, at the St Clare Convent in Moravia, Costa Rica—18 October]

[Text] The Salvadoran Government rejects the wave of violence against peace efforts. The Salvadoran Government remains firm in its effort to achieve peace for all Salvadorans. Terrorist actions against the relatives of public officials will not deter us from our decision to continue to seek peace, according to the formal commitment made in Mexico to strongly reject violent sectors that, in their ideological fanaticism, do not realize that the Salvadoran people and the international community reject all irrational actions that violate human rights.

The Salvadoran Government wishes to reiterate to the Salvadoran people and the international community its firm intention not to lose heart in the search for peace, despite those terrorist actions, the sole purpose of which is to hamper specific efforts undertaken by the government dialogue commission in the talks with the FMLN in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The violence of recent days has killed many defenseless civilians, as part of a FMLN strategic plan detected and later denounced by President Alfredo Cristiani. That wave of violence continued today when the car in which retired Lieutenant Carlos Ochoa Ruiz rode received machinegun fire. He is the brother of Humberto Ochoa of the Salvadoran Air Force. These violent actions against civilians counter the propagandistic stance by terrorist elements. However, the Salvadoran Government abides by the constitutional mandate entrusted to it by the people in the elections and is to continue its unyielding efforts to seek peace.

Moreover, the Salvadoran Government rejects disinformation ploys through which the FMLN is trying to deceive the public, by attributing false reports to Information Secretary Mauricio Sandoval, such as saying that he has a listing of government officials' relatives, as this is an FMLN plan to eschew the responsibility it must bear as the perpetrators of these incidents.

Communique on Talks

PA1910003989 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 2255 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Joint communique issued by the Salvadoran Government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in San Jose, Costa Rica; read by Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador—live]

[Text] Good afternoon, friends of the Salvadoran and worldwide press; good afternoon, Salvadoran people. Before reading the San Jose agreement, the delegations have stated two thoughts which they consider very important.

The first is that the San Jose agreement may not seem spectacular to the press, but the delegations believe that it is very important for the peace process. The second observation is that both delegations want to confirm that they are deeply aware of the complexity of the issues that must be discussed at future dialogue meetings in order to promptly sign a cease-fire. I will now read the San Jose agreement, copies of which will be distributed to you immediately after this meeting ends.

San Jose agreement:

The Salvadoran Government and the FMLN Front delegations met at the St Clare Order's Pastoral House in Moravia, San Jose, Costa Rica on 15, 16, 17, and 18 October 1989, in the presence of Catholic Church, UN, and OAS representatives who acted as observers, to discuss a cease-fire based upon the Esquipulas II, Tela, and Mexico documents, and the government and FMLN proposals.

1. On the Cease-fire

During the course of the discussions, the delegations openly discussed the foundations of their respective proposals, reiterating that to achieve peace it is essential to promote the democratization process. Both delegations agreed that the cease-fire should be understood as a definitive end of the armed conflict, and the achievement of firm and lasting peace through political agreements.

With this goal in mind, the delegations agreed on the need to reach agreements regarding the conditions that will allow—in a first phase—the cessation of the military conflict, and all actions that fail to respect the civilian population's rights, thus leading up to a definitive cease-fire within an agreed timetable.

Both sides stated their conceptual differences regarding the hostilities. The government delegation, based upon its support of a de jure regime and on the need to ensure that regime's security, understands hostility to mean any aggression or hostile action that may affect national life in the political, economic, social, and military fields through psychological, armed, or conspirational actions or techniques against any civilian or military objective, and especially actions, sabotage, or hostilities that may affect the civilian population.

The FMLN considers hostile actions not only military clashes among the parties, but also the harassment of citizens by the state and the Armed Forces through repressive measures, violations to human rights, restriction of liberties, the impunity of civilian and military authorities, and all sorts of actions that contribute to generating self-defense mechanisms that lead to social and military violence in society.

2. On the Agenda

The delegations agreed to continue discussing the halting of hostilities. The two delegations made a commitment to include in the agenda for the forthcoming dialogue

meetings all the specific subjects and proposals presented by each delegation. The two delegations agreed it is necessary to have international mechanisms for the verification of the agreements. These mechanisms should be adapted to the characteristics and realities in El Salvador.

3. On the Upcoming Meeting

The two parties agreed to hold the upcoming round of dialogue in Caracas, Venezuela on 20 and 21 November. The two parties also agreed to send representatives with full powers to discuss and reach agreements on the points included in the agenda. The two parties agreed to again invite representatives of the UN and OAS secretaries general.

4. Gratitude

The Salvadoran Government and the FMLN delegation thank the Costa Rican people and Government for their hospitality and all their efforts to ensure the smooth development of the talks. They also thank the El Salvador Episcopal Conference, the OAS, and the United Nations for their participation as witnesses in this dialogue process.

5. Church Appeal

The [words indistinct] of the Catholic Church witnesses so the parties jointly help to ensure respect for human rights and make efforts to reduce the level of aggressiveness of the conflict. The parties received the church appeal with consent and deep respect, and made a commitment to continue working to [words indistinct] the definitive peace and reconciliation in our country.
Moravia, San Jose, Costa Rica, 18 October, 1989.
Signed by the Salvadoran Government Delegation: Colonel Juan Antonio Rodriguez Varela, Dr Oscar Alfredo Santamaria, Dr David Escobar Galindo, Dr Abelardo Torres, (?Dr Rafael Marin Contreras).
For the FMLN Delegation: Commander Joaquin Villalobos, Commander Jorge Shafik Handal, Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez, Salvador Samayoa, Commander Roberto Canas, [words indistinct].
Witnesses: [UN Envoy] Dr Alvaro Soto, [OAS Envoy] Dr Ricardo Gjivoge, Msgr Marcos Rene Revelo Contreras, Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez.
This is the San Jose agreement.

Parties Comment on Dialogue

PA1910043689

[Editorial Report] San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish at 2305 GMT on 18 October broadcasts live from the St Clare Convent in Moravia, Costa Rica, statements by persons attending the closing ceremony of the dialogue session between the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN. Reception is fair to poor.

At 2306 GMT, Salvadoran Government delegate Dr Oscar Santamaria voices his government's appreciation and gratitude to the Costa Rican Government and people "for all their efforts seeking to help in this long and complex road to peace, in which all Salvadorans are engaged." Santamaria also voices recognition for the representatives of the United Nations, the OAS, and the Catholic Church. Santamaria then adds: "The Salvadoran Government came to this meeting in Costa Rica with the best intentions, with a proposal we consider logical, realistic, and in line with the agreements signed at Esquipulas II and Tela, and the Mexico document, mostly based on a peacemaking mission. We reaffirm we will attend the forthcoming dialogue meetings with these same intentions, as we hope to give the Salvadoran people the tranquillity and peaceful coexistence they so justly deserve and have awaited for such a long time." Santamaria concludes his statement by saying: "We believe this San Jose meeting will serve as an experience from which to advance in this complex task," which the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN have resumed in San Jose.

Radio Cadena YSU then carries a brief statement by FMLN Commander Jorge Shafik Handal, who says that "we have worked very seriously and prepared our proposal in a very responsible manner in line with our Mexico proposal." The FMLN commander adds that "the results of this exchange of viewpoints are evident in the declaration that has just been read. The declaration is nothing spectacular, but it is a step forward in the negotiations for the political solution of the conflict." Shafik Handal concludes by voicing "our hopes that we will make progress iatthe next meeting."

The UN and OAS representatives also speak briefly to thank all parties for having invited them to the meeting, and they reiterate they are pleased "to have worked on behalf of the 7 million Salvadorans who seek peace." Salvadoran Secretary of Information Mauricio Sandoval then announces that President Cristiani will address the nation at 0200 GMT on 20 October to report on the peace dialogue.

At 0000 GMT on 19 October, FMLN leader Salvador Samayoa is interviewed, who notes: "It was a very difficult meeting. We were deadlocked for several hours, without making any progress. You have just heard the final declaration that was issued. I think the people will be somewhat frustrated, and this makes us very angry and concerned because the people have suffered too much."

Samayoa adds: "The people have too many expectations when these meetings are held. Obviously, what is contained in this declaration issued at the end of the dialogue is much less than what the Salvadoran people were expecting. I feel that the problem is that the government has not seriously decided it wants to end the conflict through a negotiated means." He points out that "the government's delegation members do not have the political power to adopt decisions and agreements, and that is what prevented any progress." Answering a reporter's question on whether the Costa Rica declaration is just a proforma document, Samoyoa stresses that "he would not go as far as saying that. At least now the

government has given up the absurd idea that the FMLN should be demobilized and the war will come to an end as if by magic, without there being any political agreement. If you listen carefully to the agreements signed, you will observe that it is clearly established that there should be a prior stage of ending military confrontations, based on political agreements that must be achieved. After that, we will cease hostilities, which is what we understand as the definite end of the war. Therefore, that is something logical; that is something else. It is another way of seeing the process we should follow to solve the problem of the war."

Continuing the interview, the reporter asks Samayoa if "there might be an end to the military actions in a short period of time." Samayoa answers: "Not yet, because this is something we must agree on. We have established there is an important difference between what the government understands are hostilities and what the FMLN understands are hostilities. According to the government, this is the Salvadoran problem: 1. There is a de jure regime—that is, a legitimate government; 2. The people—that is, society, the people's movement—are attacking the government, the state, the military. All protests by the people are considered acts of aggression against the state, and therefore an illegal action, a hostile action. As it turns out now, after the 70,000 dead and all the atrocities committed by the death squads, after so much injustice, repression, and poverty, now it turns out that the people are to be blamed. " Samayoa adds: "It now turns out that violence is generated by the people, and not by the government or the Armed Forces. That is the stand adopted by the government." The FMLN leader explains that "the FMLN has a different concept of where the problem with the hostilities lies. The FMLN feels that the hostilities stem from the fact that in El Salvador the government and the Armed Forces have repressed the people and have deprived them of their rights. The people have a right to organize, mobilize, and protest in order to achieve their rights."

Samayoa emphasizes that "we have two very different ideas of what hostilities are all about, and as long as these are so different, it is very difficult to say that we can soon achieve a cease-fire."

To conclude, the reporter asks Samoyoa if the war will continue, and he replies: "For the time being, there is no agreement for ending this war. We want to tell all of our people, particularly the people who have suffered more in our country and are the very poor, that we will not abandon the struggle until we can guarantee there will be democracy and social justice."

Coprefa Reports on Recent FMLN Clashes

PA1810213989 Paris AFP in Spanish 1622 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Oct (AFP)—According to an official report, the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Army clashed heavily, leaving nine dead and seven wounded. This is despite the dialogue now underway in Costa Rica, where both sides seek a cease-fire.

The Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa) said that eight Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas were killed in clashes with 6th Infantry Brigade troops, at San Pedro Nonualco, in the central part of the country.

In these same clashes five soldiers were wounded. A guerrilla was killed in a clash at Guadalupe, San Vicente Department, the bulletin said.

Meanwhile, this morning, unidentified individuals directed machinegun fire at a private vehicle in the capital. The driver, a brother of an Air Force lieutenant was unharmed.

In another turn of events, residents of Chinameca, in San Miguel Department, reported that at daybreak this morning, the guerrillas harassed National Guard positions there, but no casualties were reported on either side.

Honduras

Military Selects New Armed Forces Commander

PA1810122289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0509 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The Honduran Senior Council of the Armed Forces this morning at dawn named Colonel Arnulfo Cantarero Lopez as the new commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Cantarero Lopez will replace the current commander, General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, on 27 January.

The Senior Council, formed by 60 high-ranking officers, resolved to send to the National Congress today a list of 3 candidates, so that the deputies can elect the new commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

The list is headed by Col Cantarero Lopez, current commander of the Navy, followed by Colonels Roberto Mendoza Garay and Luis Alonso Discua Elvir.

The officer who heads the list of hopefuls sent by the military hierarchy invariably is chosen by Congress, which only lends its approval to the Senior Council's decision.

Nicaragua

Blocking U.S. Aid to Opposition Discussed

PA1810212689 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1932 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 18 Oct (DPA)—The Nicaraguan Government could block the economic aid the United States is planning to send to the opposition, the presidential candidate Violeta Chamorro, by making reforms to the electoral law.

Today the National Assembly (parliament) convened an emergency session, the agenda of which included discussion of the $9 million aid U.S. President George Bush is promoting.

The National Opposition Union (UNO) would receive $2 million for Violeta Chamorro's campaign; $2 million would be allocated for the Nicaraguan Electoral Council; and $5 million would be given to the Foundation for Democracy [Fundacion para la Democracia] for various political programs in Nicaragua, prior to the 25 February 1990 elections.

The emergency meeting of the Nicaraguan parliamentarians could apparently result in reforms to the electoral law, which would prevent UNO from receiving the U.S. economic assistance.

The Sandinist Government has described the U.S. assistance for the electoral process as interference by a state wanting to use opposition parties for its political purposes.

The Nicaraguan electoral law believes that 50 percent of the aid for the political parties that are participating in the elections should be given to the Nicaraguan Electoral Council.

Resolution Protests Aid

PA1910031689 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0158 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 18 October (DPA)—The Nicaraguan parliament tonight (local time) passed a resolution protesting yesterday's approval by the U.S. Senate of $9 million for the elections to be held [words indistinct].

The National Assembly (parliament) issued the resolution after most of its representatives supported a draft bill presented by the assembly president. The resolution states that the assistance is "interventionist and harms the interests of the Nicaraguan people," who must elect executive, legislative, and municipal authorities on 25 February.

The resolution leaves the possibility open for the parliament to amend laws in order to "safeguard the fatherland's sovereignty, international law, and respect for nations." In order to prevent the introduction of the aid into the country in a legal way, articles in the electoral law that regulate foreign assistance for political parties participating in the elections would have to be amended.

Representatives of opposition political parties comprising the National Opposition Union (UNO) did not attend the session. According to the U.S. Government aid plan, the $9 million would be delivered to the Fund for Democracy, the UNO, and the Electoral Council.

The resolution says that it would be better to assign these funds to the plan for the demobilization of the "contras" who are currently in Honduras, and to respect the agreements signed by the Central American presidents and observers to the Nicaraguan elections. [sentence as received]

Observers believe that the U.S. aid is aimed at strengthening the alliance of 14 parties comprising the UNO, which is the strongest group struggling for political power in the Nicaraguan elections against the ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Defense Ministry Reports 'Contra' Clashes

PA1810155489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1508 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 15 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reported today that two Sandinist soldiers and three "contras" were killed during the last 2 days in two armed clashes in the northern part of Nicaragua.

On 13 October, a Sandinist soldier stepped on an antipersonnel mine placed by the "contras" at San Cristobal Hill, Jinotega Department, in the northern part of Nicaragua, while troops were exploring the area looking for rebel groups.

On 12 October, a government patrol was attacked by "contras" in the Santa Carmela area, also in the northern part of Nicaragua, where a Sandinist soldier and three rebels were killed, the military report said.

Additionally, "contras" kidnapped a peasant girl on 11 October from La Providencia village on the Atlantic coast, the same source concluded.

Panama

Havana TV Interviews FDP's General Noriega

FL1910032489 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Interview with General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Commander of the Panama Defense Forces, FDP, by Cuban correspondent Nelson Notario Castro in Panama, date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Notario Castro] Fifteen days after the 3 October coup attempt, what are the main dangers that still face Panama?

[Noriega] Well, as we have said, Panama's problem...[rephrases] the Panamanian situation lies in the interests of imperialism and the [word indistinct] of the United States. The United States wants to subject the Republic to a docile government, so it can manipulate the geographic position and continue manipulating, violating the Torrijos-Carter treaty—which includes the total withdrawal of troops in December 1999.

[Notario Castro] You said in Santiago de [word indistinct], and you repeated it in Panama, that if a man falls,

a commander falls, but not the struggle. Are you convinced that there is enough potential in the Panamanian people to continue the struggle?
[Noriega] This is not a new struggle. It is possible that we may have raised it to the level of a hit parade [preceding two words in English]. However, this struggle has been going on since 1904. There have been other (?patricians), other people who have died prior to 1989. There have been other actions. There have been student rebellions, armed interventions from the United States. So, this has been a struggle of many generations which cannot be attributed to any (?union), party, or specific person. This has been the struggle of a people that wants its liberation. It is a people that has dignity and culture.

Southern Command Personnel at Venezuelan Embassy

PA1910023589 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p 5

[From the "Hey Listen" column]

[Text] Southern Command intelligence personnel, in uniform on many occasions, come and go from the offices of the Venezuelan Embassy in Panama City, located at the Banco Union building. Be on the lookout!

Columnist Warns of U.S. Anticommunist Campaign

PA1910004189 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p 4

["Political Coliseum" column by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua, in collaboration with Jorge Montalvan: "New Weapon: Anticommunism"]

[Text] The Yankees, who are very shrewd, have impressive propaganda weapons. Look how they transformed Noriega into a sort of terrible monster, and how they later disguised their true intentions in Panama under the cloak of alleged problems created by Noriega. It cannot be denied that they have obtained an impressive victory. They have fooled millions of people.

Now, especially after the last shoot-out, I am really worried. I see the little devil's horns sprouting from all sides. A fierce anticommunist campaign is being reactivated everywhere. A seditious snake-in-the-grass whimpers that "the Reds are taking over the government." An alleged buddy of Noriega maliciously whispers that "the damn thing has started with Renato and Kam" [newly appointed Government and Foreign Ministers]. In churches, temples, and processions, the new slogan that is being chanted as a litany is "the Marxist enemy is advancing brazenly, we have to regroup ourselves spiritually," and so on.

We can see that slowly the framework for a new attack is being assembled. They will end up saying that Noriega is, in addition to all that has already been said about him, a Commie in disguise, or even worse, a docile fool in the hands of the native agents of the KGB. By saying this, they are lubricating their credibility before our people to prepare them for the next attack, which has already been announced in detail by every ranking official in the Bush administration. Talk about finesse!

But then, one expects anything from one's enemies. But how about one's friends? All of a sudden I see that I am surrounded by overt or covert anticommunists who look at their fatherland's present and future through the same goggles as the gringos, who have been chronically colorblind.

Without setting out to do so, I find that I have classified the anticommunists, but then not all of them are alike. Some of them are simply foolish or naive; they have not the faintest idea about what is going on. They have heard the rooster crow, but have no idea what barnyard he is in, so they term as communist anything that carries the words people's, democractic, antioligarchic, or antigringo.

Then there are the rabid or ideological anticommunists. People like [Panamanian opposition leaders Ricardo] Arias Calderon and like Ada de Gordon, or like [former Panamanian Defense Forces Commander General Ruben Dario] Paredes, the general who almost led us off a cliff by pulling too much to the right. These are people who are always seated to the right of the pope, and who look with mistrust upon any incipient change in the framework of society. These people adore the Reader's Digest, are suspicious of [Panamanian patriots] Justo Arosemena and Jose Daniel Crespo, and would never dream of even looking at the cover of a story by [Argentine author] Julio Cortazar!

Last, but not least, there are those who are anticommunists by design—for profit, for financial gain. These are the most diabolical of all, the most dangerous, and they are all around us. They can change their colors with amazing ease. Sometimes they are concerned about the fatherland's future; at other times they are concerned about the general's security; and at yet other times they are concerned about continuity of the process. Meanwhile, they reap benefits, collect money, obtain privileges, and make financial deals. They intend to keep it all and to continue to make their profits grow by claiming that, "we should not rock the boat, or the gringos will invade us," or by echoing the arguments of Social Democrats such as CAP [Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez] or little [Costa Rican President] Oscar Arias.

Tell me if I am not right, if I am mistaken. You can see that while the Yankees prepare their next coup (the director of the CIA says that Noriega's days are numbered), while Panamanian midgets who love to to play the role of accomplices in the coup, the anticommunists in "the process" will sprout like mushrooms in and around the government and the garrisons. They are only concerned about alleged pinkos in government posts, or about party and government programs that they consider too "radical."

Personally, I believe there are still too many unmasked traitors.

Local Newspaper Accused of Disinformation

PA1910035189 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p 5

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo: "Disinformation Power"]

[Text] Disinformation is like acid rain. Its effect can be felt long after it has fallen. One of the fundamental tasks of disinformation is to "distort or fabricate incidents. [no end quotation mark as published] It can be especially seen when, as in the case of Panama, a powerful nation that controls the major international news centers becomes the aggressor against our country.

In cases like this, the disinformation techniques dictate "to always try to undermine and discredit the nationalist movements of countries striving for their liberation , to destroy governments that adopt measures along those lines, and to destroy the civilians or soldiers who carry the banner of nationalist leadership." Disinformation rests on terrorism. In Panama's case, the aggressor country has resorted to political, economic, and psychological terrorism, through an intense disinformation campaign that prepares national and international public opinion to accept military terrorism as a final solution. It also uses rumor and the tactic of "planting or leaking" news that appears to be of little importance and yet acts as acid rain. Its effect lasts a long time.

Leaking news that disinforms must obey specific disinformation rules. The news must preferably start in the country targeted as the victim of disinformation, be published in the inside pages, and must not stand out among other news that may draw the public's attention at that time; it must be brief but contain all the elements that may create confusion.

A typical example of "disinformation was published on page A-2 of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA's 16 October edition. It did not carry a title, but it did have a one-line lead sentence in small print which read:

"Noriega adviser will supervise the news media and political parties."

[No opening quote as published] Panama. An aide of Panamanian strong man General Manuel Antonio Noriega has been appointed new government and justice minister. This postition will enable him to play a key role in the enactment of 'new' emergency 'laws,' political sources noted."

"Renato Pereira, legal adviser of the Panama Defense Forces, is replacing Olmedo Miranda, who according to official reports resigned for personal reasons."

"Pereira will serve in a ministry through which Gen Noriega expects to enact a series of laws to confront the measures the United States may adopt against him in the 10 days following the foiled coup to topple him."

As is clear, the item, which did not carry a date, or the name of its author, or a news agency, looked as if it was written in Panama, and was surely forwarded from this city to other transnational agencies of disinformation working here. The item stated: "Noriega Expects To Enact Laws."

On 10 October, LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA carried the following front page item with a banner headline that read: "Provisional Measures Are Established," followed by a detailed description of these measures. On 12 October, the same newspaper also carried on the front page the text of the speech by President Francisco Rodriguez on 11 October, with the banner headline stressing "The Government Will Respect Free Enterprise, the Measures Adopted by the Government Guarantee Respect for Free Enterprise and Private Property." That same edition reproduces Gen Noriega's 11 October comments before the people's government that "the war laws do not in any way mention firing squads or taking someone's private property away."

"The war laws" were drafted by a commission of the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] and were explained, analyzed, and published by LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA on 11 October 1989. However, that news item without date and author, published on 16 October, talks of "laws Noriega will present." That is how disinformation works. It distorts half-truths to try to create a nonexistent fact.

MIPPE Explains Country's Financial Position

PA1910005689 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p A-1

[Report by staff reporter Claudio Herrera J.]

[Text] Gustavo Gonzalez, minister of Planning and Economic Policy (MIPPE), said that the announced "war measures" are not experiments with government agencies, banks, money, or finances.

Gonzalez said that government investments had to be kept low because the main thrust must be designed to help personnel and operations.

Gonzalez said that U.S. companies have withheld about $140 million from the Panama Government, and said that part of those monies have been deposited with the Federal Reserve and another part is in bank reserves accounts. "These same businesses have frozen these accounts by order of the U.S. Governmment," he said.

Gonzalez said that the U.S. Government does not recognize the legality of the Panamanian Government or its diplomats—hence Francisco Rodriguez' recent trip to attend the UN General Assembly.

Gonzalez said that an IMF mission arrived in Panama to evaluate the national financial and economic situation. The IMF was invited so they could see for themselves the measures the government is applying to adapt itself to the tight financial situation, to facilitate restarting a small investment process in the public sector.

Gonzalez explained that it is a 3-year plan and it includes tax breaks, tourism, and building incentives, and guarantees investors that they will not be treated arbitrarily.

The minister said that the foreign debt is approximately $3.8 billion, but stressed that "we have to renegotiate the debt like the banks have to. We have no preferential treatment, therefore we need to find a way to reconcile our position with that of the lending institutions, he reaffirmed. [no closing quotes as published]

Arias on Disappearances, Rights Violations

PA1810203289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1915 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 18 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderon today reported the disappearance of a Christian Democratic Party [PDC] community leader, the torture of another PDC leader, and violations of the human rights of several "political prisoners."

According to Arias, PDC Vice President Raul Ossa was "physically and psychologically" tortured after being detained by military men on 3 October, the same day that a military coup attempt was foiled.

During a news conference today, the opposition leader reported that community leader Senen Briceno disappeared after being detained by presumed military men on 3 October.

According to Arias, Briceno was last seen when he was being transferred on 9 October from Bocas del Toro Province to the capital [words indistinct].

"The authorities have denied having him" since then, Arias said. So far, it has not been possible to obtain an official report on the whereabouts of the detainee.

Ossa, on the other hand, was detained for 6 days in Chorrera and during his captivity "was punched in the stomach," Arias said. He added that Ossa was denied food and sleep, and was continuously interrogated on alleged U.S. plans to capture Noriega.

Arias said that the officers who interrogated Ossa threatened to kill him on several occasions by "pointing a gun at his temple."

Ossa was later released after posting a $20,000 bond through the mediation of EC diplomats before Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez.

Beginning today Ossa will head a special PDC human rights commission that will offer legal and humanitarian aid to detainees and their relatives.

The opposition leader denounced other arrests in which detainees were denied their right to post bond, and were not presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Among the detainees, Arias named Nelson Cedeno, Teofilo Medina, Quintero Alveo Hernandez, Nicolas Torres, Armando Peralta, all of whom were detained on 2 October.

Arias reported that in Chiriqui Province, at the Costa Rican border, 11 people who were detained in mid-August are still under detention, and all efforts to free them have failed.

Arias also protested the expulsion of Peruvian nun Elsa Maria Schaus, principal of a large private secondary school and described the action as "persecution against the Panamanian Catholic Church and a violation of the teaching-freedom principle."

Argentina

Agreements Reached in Madrid Talks With UK

PY1810153089 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Madrid, 18 Oct (TELAM/EFE/ANSA/PL)—Today Argentina and Great Britain reached agreements within the framework of the Madrid negotiations that seek to normalize overall relations. An atmosphere of "moderate optimism" was observed at the conclusion of the monring session of this second day of talks, which took place in the Argentine Embassy in this city.

According to a leak, a formula for the "sovereignty umbrella" was signed in which the two parties safeguard their sovereignty rights in the area of the conflict.

A source has indicated that there has been "very good" progress made in the measures for reestablishing economic and trade relations. They have agreed that Argentina will wind up the work of the Committee for the Surveillance of British Assets and it will allow the repatriation of the profits of 90 British companies in Argentina. An agreement is believed to have been reached to renew air and maritime communications.

The British are believed to have agreed to "think deeply" about problems related to fishing. These will be discussed in a second round of negotiations.

Regarding the Malvinas Islands Archipelago, the United Kingdom has imposed a 150-mile fishing protection zone around the islands. Argentina wants to achieve an agreement that will include a 50-mile no-man's zone around the islands between the British and Argentine areas. At the moment more than 400 vessels are fishing in that area.

Diplomatic sources have indicated that the British delegates have told their Argentine colleagues that for the time being they will maintain the 200-mile military exclusion zone in order to guarantee the defense of the islands.

Yesterday the two delegations met for early 6 hours in 2 sessions. During these sessions each party submitted its ideas, projects, proposals, and counter-proposals on the points under debate.

Within this positive context, this afternoon they will discuss the normalization of diplomatic relations at the consular level. The source consulted in this respect expressed that he was "frankly optimistic."

Agree To Resume Relations

AU1910122089 Paris AFP in English 1219 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] Madrid, Oct 19 (AFP)—Argentina and Britain have agreed to resume relations at consular level, Argentine sources said Thursday.

The decision was taken at reconciliation talks here between the two countries who fought a war over the Falklands islands in the south Atlantic in 1982 and have had no diplomatic relations since.

The sources close to the Argentine delegation gave no timetable for the resumption of ties.

Menem Sends Condolences to U.S. on Earthquake

PY1910025489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0125 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (TELAM)—It was officially reported today that President Carlos Menem has sent a message to U.S. President George Bush expressing the condolences of the Argentine people over the earthquake that hit the city of San Francisco in California.

"In view of the tragic natural phenomenon that so violently hit the San Francisco area in California, I would like to convey to you the condolences of the entire Argentine people, and my own, for the catastrophe that has affected your country," the message states.

"Throughout its history the United States has shown its strength in the face of its most dramatic moments. I am sure that the U.S. people's fighting spirit will again overcome these tragic events," the message adds.

"I hereby express my wish that calm and tranquillity will soon return to the affected area. I reiterate the Argentine people's most sincere solidarity with the entire U.S. people," the message states. President Menem concludes with a handwritten note: "With best wishes I convey to you my most sincere regards."

Defense Minister on Military 'Calm,' U.S. Aid

PY1810151489 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2307 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Oct (NA)—Defense Minister Italo Luder today said that following the pardon the Army "remains calm because one retirement more or less does not substantially affect the situation." He also admitted that Argentina may accept U.S. assistance in providing arms and equipment for the struggle against drug trafficking.

Regarding the Army's internal situation, Luder said that he has perceived "a sympathetic attitude to overcome the crisis" in which the Army has been involved during the past few years.

"It is true that there are expectations, but the situation remains calm. One retirement more or less does not substantially affect the situation," the defense minister said.

He added that "Army people realize that the political power has sought solutions and that now there is no room for ill will." "Public opinion would not understand it," Luder emphasized, obviously alluding to alleged acts

of lack of discipline over possible retirements of officers who participated in the uprisings.

Speaking to newsmen accredited to the Defense Ministry, Luder said that for the time being" [no opening quotation mark as received] the military salaries will follow the decisions made concerning the salaries of public servants. He said that the situation will be reviewed next year when the budget is drawn up.

Regarding the credits for the struggle against drug trafficking, the minister said that Argentina may accept this type of aid from the United States to obtain arms and equipment.

When asked about the situation of Ali Seineldin and Aldo Rico, Luder refused to voice his opinion because the Defense Ministry "is one of the places where petitions are received and, therefore, I cannot make any remarks because I would be prejudging the case." [passage omitted]

President Menem Pardons 10 More People

PY1910012189 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0141 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem pardoned 10 more people today, including 3 military men and civilians Rodolfo Gabriel Galimberti and Graciela Beatriz Daleo. The list also includes Fernando Vaca Narvaja, who had been pardoned earlier. Vaca Narvaja was pardoned this time on another court case.

It was officially reported tonight that these two executive branch decrees pardon people who were not included on the first list because of delays in getting the court reports.

The list includes Rodolfo Gabriel Galimberti, Graciela Beatriz Daleo, Eduardo Alberto Girondo, Fernando Vaca Narvaja, Juan Alberto Mino, Ruben Dri, and Angel Victor Cano.

Also included are Majors Hector Daniel Ferrer and Jorge D'Amico and Captain Osvaldo Antinori.

Some of these people were pardoned by the president a few days ago; they are included on today's list because of delays in getting the court reports about their involvement in other cases.

New decrees pardoning more people on other cases can be expected over the next few days.

Government Announces Army Appointments

PY1910025989 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2235 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (NA)—Through Decree No 1086 released this afternoon at government house the executive branch has appointed Brigadier General Martin Felix Bonnet as deputy chief of staff of the Army. Through Decree No 1040 the executive branch has assigned the rank of minister to the chairman of the Security Council to Brigadier General Teodoro Waldner, "to enable him to discharge his duties more effectively."

The government also made a number of appointments in Army organizations and units.

Brigadier General Hector Lubin Arias was appointed to serve in the Army General Staff. General Miguel Angel Dicio of the Quartermaster Corps was appointed to the Directorate for Financial Policy.

Brigadier General Horacio Guillermo Canestro was apointed inspector general of the Army, and Brigadier General Mario Candido Diaz was appointed director of th. Army Personnel Department.

Today's list of appointments, which had been unoficially reported earlier, includes the appointments of Brigadier Generals Diego Alejandro Soria and Maximo Rosendo Groba as deputy chiefs of staff of the II and III Corps, respectively.

Grenades, Rifles Found in La Matanza 'Arsenal'

PY1810154289 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2320 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Oct (NA)—The Buenos Aires Police have discovered a powerful arsenal consisting of rifles, ammunition, and plastic bombs in the bed of Morales Creek in La Matanza during an operation early today.

This afternoon Buenos Aires Police Chief Norberto Andres went to the site.

The materiel was exhibited about 500 meters from km 35 of Highway 3 to Carlos Alberto Pompo, the security under secretary for Buenos Aires, and Police Chief Andres.

Police officials told NA tht the arsenal found on the bed of the stream includes 21 grenades for 62 milimeter antitank rifles; 44 hand grenades (Spanish made); 2 submachine guns; one Madsen 7.62 rifle (antiaircraft); and approximately 2,000 rounds of ammunition for light automatic rifles.

The arsenal also include 24 plastic grenade boxes, 12 meters of detonating wire, 20 meters of slow fuse, 17 fragmentation cylinders, 5 bars and 7 pieces of Trotyl [Trinitrotoluene, TNT], 17 cylinders of plastic explosives, 12 FAL [Light Automatic Rifle] clips, and 3 boxes to transport ammunition.

Police Chief Andres, who arrived at Morales Creek shortly before 1800, emphasized that "the arms cache was seized by the La Matanza regional police unit after a local resident filed a report at the local police precinct." [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Paz Zamora, Peruvian President Garcia To Meet

PY1810142889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Excerpts] President Jaime Paz Zamora yesterday said that the meeting that he and his Peruvian counterpart Alan Garcia will hold today on Lake Titicaca—aboard the ship "Ollanata"—will mark a new historical landmark for Bolivia and Peru, and will revitalize the currently sluggish bilateral relations.

Paz Zamora said that over the past few years Bolivia has been internationally passive because, he said, we were more concerned about maintaining good relations with the IMF and we disregarded other relations. Asked about the agenda of the meeting with Alan Garcia, President Paz said:

[Begin Paz recording] The agenda includes some issues regarding the development of Lake Titicaca basin and security along our borders. The agenda also includes transportation between our two countries and the establishment of duty-free ports by either country. We can also establish duty-free ports on the (?northern) Paraguay and Parana rivers. The agenda has many issues and will cover 4 hours of work. I believe everything has been properly prepared. [End recording] [passage omitted]

The two presidents will host a press conference at 1600 today. The delegations are scheduled to return at 1800.

Bomb Explodes Near Site

PY1810174689 Madrd EFE in Spanish 1715 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] La Paz, 18 Oct (EFE)—It has been officially reported in La Paz that a bomb attack occurred early this morning somewhere near the place where Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora and Peruvian President Garcia are to meet today.

Navy Lieutenant Justo Martinez, commander of the port of the Bolivian city of Copacabana, reported that a bomb exploded in the Peruvian town of Yunguyo, which is located near the border between the two countries, approximately 10 km from Copacabana.

Martinez added that the offices of the deputy mayor, a civilian office occupied by the provincial governor, were the objective of the terrorist attack.

The Navy officer told La Paz Radio Panamericana that reconnaisance patrols have been sent to the border with Peru and other "critical" points of Copacabana Bay in order to guard the presidential meeting.

It is at the mouth of this Lake Titicaca bay that Paz Zamora and Garcia will meet today to discuss bilateral topics and matters pertaining to drug trafficking.

Bolivia and Peru grow 90 percent of the world's coca leaves, which are used to produce cocaine.

Free Port Zone Agreement

PY1910033689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0143 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] La Paz, 18 Oct (EFE)—Peru has given Bolivia free zones in two Peruvian ports to facilitate Bolivia's access to the sea. Bolivia lost its Pacific coastline in a war against Chile in 1879.

This agreement was reached during a meeting between Peruvian President Alan Garcia and Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora on board a ship anchored on the highest lake in the world, Lake Titicaca.

"It has been a fruitful meeting because we agreed on several issues that go beyond the rhetoric of international relations," the Peruvian chief of state said after the session.

"We met to implement definitively an old Peruvian offer," Garcia added.

According to the joint declaration that was released to the public after the presidential summit, the free zones are located in the ports of Matarani and Ilo, in southern Peru, in keeping with an offer made by the Peruvian Government in 1979.

This is the first time that Bolivia has gained access to free zones in Peruvian ports. The only free port Bolivia previously had access to was the Chilean port of Iquique.

An official communique states that the Bolivian free zone locations, and operations systems in Peruvian ports will be defined during a meeting of Bolivian and Peruvian experts, who must prepare proposals within 60 days.

The two presidents decided to create a maritime transportation company with two companies from each country. The presidents instructed their transportation ministers to sign the agreement .

In the final declaration, the chiefs of state decided that Peruvian lead and silver concentrate will be processed in Bolivian metal plants. They also decided to create a binational company to market minerals.

The two presidents, the communique states, "expressed their will to promote the creation in the future of a binational ministry for the complete development and management of the high plateau region shared by the two countries."

Garcia and Paz Zamora ratified "their conviction to carry out bilateral trade within the Andean integration program," and the Peruvian administration promised to grant Bolivia facilities "to encourage trade of Bolivian agriculture and agroindustrial products."

On the subject of drug trafficking, the two presidents "reiterated their political will" to coordinate actions

against illegal drug trafficking, according to the commitment assumed on 10 October by Garcia, Paz Zamora, and Colombian President Virgilio Barco in the Peruvian city of Ica.

Bolivia and Peru are two of the world's main producers of coca leaves, the raw material for making cocaine, of which 80 percent is processed in Colombian laboratories.

The two chiefs of state also decided to "review and modernize" public transit between their two countries "in keeping with historical, geographic, and economic relations" between Bolivia and Peru.

In a remarkable sidelight, President Alan Garcia decided to rename the Peruvian ship "Ollanata," where the meeting took place, the "Great Marshal Andres de Santa Cruz," after the fifth Bolivian president and sponsor of the Peruvian-Bolivian confederation.

One of the agreements included in the 18-point final declaration states that Bolivia will be able to send Navy officers with the next Peruvian mission to Antarctica.

The presidential summit was held on the waters of Lake Titicaca, 3,800 meters above sea level.

A bomb exploded today at dawn in the Peruvian town of Yunguyo, near the lake, very near where the presidential summit was to take place.

Although the explosion did not cause any casualties, the local police station did sustain some property damage.

Brazil

Nationwide Poll Shows Collor as Favorite

PY1810193289 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] The nationwide poll conducted by IBOPE [Brazilian Public Opinion and Statistics Institute] between 12 and 16 October confirms that Fernando Collor is the favorite presidential candidate. According to the poll, 31 percent intend to vote for PRN [National Reconstruction Party] candidate Fernando Collor while only 16 percent intend to vote for Leonel Brizola, the second most popular candidate. A week ago 32 percent supported Collor and 14 percent Brizola while Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, of the Workers Party, remained—as he has done for the past month—in third place although his popularity has dropped from 12 to 11 percent. Afif Domingos (PL) [Liberal Party], whose popularity has dropped from 8 to 7 percent, shares fourth place with Paulo Maluff (PSD) [Social Democratic Party] whose popularity amounts to 6 percent, the same as Mario Covas (PSDB) [Brazilian Social Democratic Party].

The least popular candidates are Ulysses Guymaraes (PMDB) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] whose popularity has dropped from 4 to 3 percent and is now in the seventh place; Roberto Freire (PCB) [Brazilian Communist Party] who still enjoys the support of 1 percent of the voters; and Ronaldo Caiado (PSD) [Democratic Social Party], who also enjoys 1 percent of the peoples' support. The remaining candidates together muster only 1 percent. Some 4 percent of electors intend to vote in blank or invalidate their vote, and 11 percent do not know for whom they will vote.

Air Force Receives First Embraer AMX Fighter

PY1810144689 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] has delivered the first AMX figher bomber to the Brazilian Air Force [FAB].

The aircraft was built jointly by Embraer and two Italian enterprises.

Before the end of the year the FAB will acquire another two AMX planes, and by late 1990 plans to have a total of 18 AMX planes built by Embraer together with the Italian enterprises Aeritalia and Aermacchi.

The project started 10 years ago and has required an investment of $600 million by Brazil.

Thirty percent of the components of the AMX, the first Brazilian-made fighter, are produced by Brazilian enterprises. This represents the beginning of a new era of technological development for Brazil and opens the door for new developments according to Aeronautics Minister Julio Octavio Moreira Lima.

[Begin Moreira recording] The jet-propelled Brasilia plane will be modified by Embraer to produce the Embraer 145 that will be used for commercial flights. Moreover, there will be new developments of materials like carbon fibers and new comounds which Embraer has already placed on the international market. They are already producing spare parts for the McDonnel MD-11 project. [end recording]

The AMX is fitted with between 28 and 36 computers and flies at a speed of 900 to 1000 km per hour. The first AMX was flown from Sao Jose dos Campos to Rio de Janeiro by Major (Gilberto Rigobelo) on Friday 15 Oct. The flight lasted 15 minutes.

Within 2 years, once the AMX International enterprise has been created, the AMX plane will be sold at a cost of $16 to 18 million each.

Longshoremen Unload Ship With Dangerous Cargo

PY1810184589 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1430 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Rio de Janeiro longshoremen have begun to unload the ship "Maringa." This ship arrived from Europe with a leakage of the chemical products it is carrying in one of the holds. The "Maringa" arrived at port some 11 days ago, prompting a conflict. The longshoremen refused to unload the cargo unless they were assured that there was no danger of contamination.

The port health service has authorized the unloading of four of the five holds of the ship. Only hold No 2, where the chemical products have leaked, has been restricted. In that hold 2 and ½ tons of barley are also being carried.

The unloading activities are being closely followed by soldiers, doctors, firemen, and civil defense members. The first cargo to be unloaded belongs to the Brazilian Army: 20 tons of weapons and ammunition coming from Belgium.

Chile

Pinochet Denies Plans for 'Parallel Government'

PY1810213089 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 13 Oct 89 p 8

[Excerpts] Puerto Aysen—President Augusto Pinochet has categorically denied that he intends to establish a parallel government or a supragovernment [supragobierno] from his position as Army commander in chief after he leaves the Presidency.

The president also said that Chileans who support him will not be abandoned when he leaves the Presidency. He said: "I am not going to abandon you. For that very reason I am keeping the post of Army commander in chief. This is my patriotism, which some people want to interpret in a different way."

President Pinochet spoke with journalists shortly after arriving at the Puerto Aysen airport at 1015 on another leg of his tour of the southern and austral regions.

Asked if he intends to establish a parallel government or a supragovernment from his post as Army commander in chief, Pinochet replied: "How could you think that I am going to establish a supragovernment?! We are not Indians!! [passage omitted]

Cup of milk

Asked how he would describe the country's atmosphere 2 months before the elections, Pinochet said: "I would describe it as a cup of milk; there is cream above and all the microbes below. It is quiet. However, I not only think but am convinced that there is a movement below planning for the postelection period. If they intend to promote disturbances or wreak havoc, you shall see it. I do not want to say that I am pessimistic, that I am scared, or that I am scaring the people, because this is now called a terror campaign. There is no such thing. We are seeing the truth. I am leaving the Presidency with a clear conscience. However, I want people to realize how they have been deceived." [passage omitted]

Colombia

Bomb Detonates in Bogota's Main Square

PA1810190289 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] A bomb exploded in Plaza Bolivar, Bogota's main square, a few minutes ago. The individual who was carrying this powerful bomb was killed by the explosion. Authorities are investigating the incident.

Explosion Injures 4 Persons

PA1810213789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2007 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 18 Oct (DPA)— Four persons were injured, including an alleged terrorist, when a bomb that was apparently going to be placed at the Colombian parliament building went off in the hands of the person carrying it in downtown Bogota.

According to preliminary information, a young man was trying to place the explosive device inside the National Capitol where the two chambers of the legislative branch function, but the bomb exploded prematurely.

The bomb ripped the terrorist's body, but did not kill him. He was found a few meters away from the National Capitol, located on the congested Bolivar Square, in the heart of historic Bogota.

Also injured in this incident were two officials of the lower chamber and an unidentified person, according to the authorities.

A medical report indicates that the young man, who could die at any minute because of the seriousness of his wounds, was preparing to perpetrate the attack on the parliament. However, it has not been ruled out that the bomb was meant for Bogota's mayoralty, located on one side of Bolivar Square.

The foiled terrorist plan could be a new action by the drug trafficking mafias, who are waging an open "war" on Colombia's government, justice organizations, and newspapers.

* UP Issues Constitutional Reform Proposal

33480285b Bogota VOZ Supplement in Spanish 7 Sep 89 pp 1-4

[Unattributed report: "Constitutional Reform: The UP's Proposal;" first paragraph is VOZ introduction]

[Text] Constitutional reform and the need for a plebiscite are the subject of intense debate. Government proposals and the channels for moving toward such objectives already exist. Under these conditions, many wonder what the content of real political reform to be submitted to a plebiscite should be? In response to this

question, Patriotic Union (UP) representatives in Congress have drafted guidelines for political reform which VOZ is publishing exclusively in summary form.

For some time now, a broad consensus has existed among the most varied democratic sectors of the country on the need for a far-reaching constitutional reform modifying the institutional factors that are at the root of the acute, prolonged conflict burdening the Colombian people and whose most significant and painful manifestation is the multifaceted, ominous intrusion of violence into all areas of civic life.

Agreement also exists on the fact that institutional reforms cannot be achieved by the ordinary channels provided for in the constitution, not only because of the obvious limitations pointed out by the legislative body, but also because what is basically at stake is the formation of a new consensus of legitimacy requiring the support and acceptance by civil society in its multiple organizational expressions (parties, production and labor guilds, community associations, and associations of the basic organizational cells of the citizens' lives: the municipalities).

In other words, what is needed is the re-creation of new standards of coexistence based on the redesigning of a number of political institutions arising out of the broadest possible democratic consensus and requiring a direct appeal to the citizens' will, legally expressed in the will of the primary constituent assembly.

From the standpoint of the facts and social reality, the magnitude of the national crisis, the obstacles of existing institutions to producing the reforms needed to confront it, and the need for the broadest possible backing for such reforms justify having recourse to a primary constituent assembly.

However, the backing of the Colombian people in the search for new standards of coexistence, guaranteed by renewed political institutions, cannot come about through a mere act of will expressing their desire for change. We must first submit for their consideration and approval the guiding principles of the process of amendment and institutional transformation to be carried out by a constituent assembly called for that purpose. This is what the proposal labels as bases for constitutional reform.

Such bases seek to identify the fundamental issues of that political reform aimed at creating a new climate in national political life and therefore, at strengthening and giving credibility to efforts of coexistence now being made by the government and sectors representing civil society.

Fundamental Aspects

The bases of constitutional reform that would be aimed at achieving the aforementioned objectives which we propose have to do with three fundamental aspects of the reform of the Colombian Government:

a) A breakup of the bipartisan monopoly over control of government and authoritarian institutions which has long characterized the Colombian political system, doing so by virtue of the elimination of those provisions sanctioning the parity liberal-conservative distribution of government organs (public administration through the paragraph of Article 120 of the judicature and electoral branch), thus making it possible for all citizens to enjoy free access to public office, provided they comply with career standards established for the different institutions of government.

Second, restriction of the use of the state of siege to situations truly threatening the continuity and operation of political institutions and specifying a precise period of time, subjecting government authorities to specific powers, will prevent that institution from continuing to be used to repress the just demands of citizens, thereby legitimizing, as has been the case for the past 30 years, the use of force to ensure the rights of society's neediest sectors and classes.

The same must be said about elimination of Article 28 of the present constitution which, by granting the government power to control the freedom of the citizens, in violation of the democratic principle that such freedom is subject solely to the dictates of the country's judges, who must obey the principle of the legality of crimes and penalties, distorts the so-called "state of law" that is supposed to characterize our political system.

Other measures, such as the establishment of the "national quota" for minorities, free and equal access to mass media for all parties and movements, partial financing of the latter's campaigns by the government, are aimed at achieving the previously defined effect of restoring conditions of balance and equality in the peaceful competition for power waged by all forces and political parties.

Definition of the subordinate role of the Armed Forces to civil authorities and their function as defenders of democracy and human rights, as well as the nonmilitary role to be assigned to the Police, are aimed at restoring the civility of government political institutions that have deteriorated in recent times due to the preeminence and takeover of what are strictly strategic objectives by high military officials.

Democratization of the Colombian Government depends not only on dismantling its authoritarian institutions, but also on overcoming its most visible element: the authoritarianism of the Executive Branch, by means of measures such as a ban on the granting of special powers by the Congress except in special, strictly defined situations, elimination of areas placed off limits to legislative action of the Congress and extension of that ban to citizens, ratification of Executive appointments of high officials by the Legislative Branch and the latter's right to veto based on the conduct and performance of Cabinet ministers.

In order to achieve this objective of eliminating the prepotency of the Executive Branch, the guidelines for reform also provide for recovery by the Congress, by virtue of the strengthening of its constituent and legislative functions, particularly the power to act as a watchdog over public administration (ratification of appointments of higher authorities in the Executive Branch, the summoning and veto of ministers and the power to channel both through precise procedures and methods).

Democratization of the Country

b) The establishment of a progressive doctrine by means of the incorporation of economic and social rights present in most contemporary constitutions but which in our country have been given a purely legal basis, in the case of some, and no legal existence at all, in others.

Moreover, the fundamental rights provided for in our present constitution should be defined with greater precision, paying heed to the most recent developments of public law.

Given this prospect of achieving an advanced democracy for our country, these bases would provide for transition from the current "representative democracy" to so-called "participatory" or "semi-direct democracy" by means of the sanctioning of new political rights precisely aimed at guaranteeing the effective and direct participation of citizens in the exercise and control of political power, to wit: the people's initiative of laws, legal and constitutional referendum and the plebiscite, as well as conceptual precision with respect to consideration of the right of petition and the exercise of public action of unconstitutionality as authentic political rights of the citizen.

Finally, nothing would be gained by a rhetorical proclamation of rights and guarantees if mechanisms for tutelage of the same were not provided. This is the specific purpose of the provision that constitutionally sanctioned rights require legal development for their exercise. The other protective mechanism is provided by what other constitutional arrangements on the continent call "appeal for protection" in the case of constitutional rights, consisting of a simple, summary procedure before specialized authorities seeking to prevent any violation of a fundamental right or restore it if it has in fact been violated.

Local and Regional Democracy

c) Regionalized unitary government. The foundations of reform are also oriented toward proposing the democratization, not only of political institutions as a whole in the sense already expressed, but of local and regional bodies as well.

Without question, one of the axes of democratization processes in modern times necessarily depends on the demand for rights by the periphery vis-a-vis the central government of nations following a long process of hyperconcentration in favor of the latter, which in cases such as Colombia has meant the near annihilation of community life in the provinces and small and medium-size towns.

The fight to broaden and deepen democracy cannot ignore this problem, especially in a country such as our own of profoundly different "regions" in terms of their varied geography.

The so-called process of decentralization and community participation, initiated 3 years ago by means of reforms such as the election of mayors by direct suffrage and administrative and financial reforms of the municipalities, still has significant progress to make from the democratic standpoint through: 1) the transformation of the ill-labeled "national territories" into departments, with the same rights and prerogatives as at present; 2) popular election of governors; and 3) sanctioning of the autonomy of departments and municipalities in the normative, administrative, and fiscal aspects, so that intervention by the central government will be limited to basically support and technical-financial assistance functions and the maintenance of public order, which aspect, along with unity of the constitutional and legal system, will preserve the unitary nature of the Colombian Government.

It is therefore not a matter of returning to an archaic and outdated federalism, but rather, of paying heed to Colombia's specific conditions while preserving its rich regional and local life, asphyxiated and homogenized by 100 years of rigid centralism. However, the unitary aspect that has permitted the still incomplete construction of Colombia as a nation must be maintained. Subordination to a single constitutional and legal system will be preserved through the legal organs responsible for solving conflicts of competence and standards that may arise on the national, departmental, and municipal levels.

In conclusion, we believe that an authentically democratic constitutional reform, in terms of content and procedures of adoption, one that modifies the institutional factors of authoritarianism, hegemonic, exclusive control by the historic parties, one that revives the fundamental rights of the individual and restores to the citizen the instruments needed for effective exercise and protection, that revitalizes community life on the most immediate political levels, and finally, that is born of the broadest possible consensus of the citizenry, will be the best contribution from the legal standpoint to the discovery of the paths of civilized coexistence among all Colombians. Democratic, constitutional reform and peace are the irreplaceable terms of the same equation seeking the reconstruction of our nation.

Foundations for Constitutional Reform by a Plebiscite and People's Constituent Assembly

I. Sovereignty and Fundamental Rights

a—Sovereignty belongs to the Colombian people, who shall exercise it directly through the citizens' initiative of laws, the plebiscite, and referendum or through their freely elected representatives.

b—The constitution shall incorporate the following basic rights: the right to education and culture, the right to housing, the right to own land, the rights of family,

motherhood, childhood, and old age, the right to unemployment compensation, the right of workers to participate in the management and profits of their enterprises and the right to the environment.

c—Work shall be defined as a right, establishing the principle of favoring the worker in the interpretation of labor laws.

The right to strike shall be sanctioned for all labor activities with the exception of those having to do with defense, health services, and assistance in public disasters.

The right of association shall be expressly extended to trade union and professional unions.

Collective bargaining between employers and workers shall be incorporated into constitutional law.

The right to public assistance shall become the right to social security, whose benefits for all citizens and inhabitants of the national territory shall be obligatory for the government.

The special rights of our country's ethnic minorities shall be defined.

d—The following individual rights shall be defined:

The right to life and personal integrity, with an express ban on torture, cruel and defamatory treatment, forms of behavior that shall be excluded from benefits sanctioned by the law governing other types of crimes.

Freedom of the press shall be defined and the law regulating its practice shall be aimed at preventing monopolistic concentration, both economic and political, and at allowing the expression of all thought and opinion trends.

e—The following procedural guarantees shall be defined:

Habeas corpus shall be expressly included as a constitutional right that may be neither limited nor suspended, even under the emergency conditions of a state of siege.

The government cannot authorize the extradition of nationals.

Freedom may not be curtailed except by judicial procedure.

There may be no type of trial of citizens by military tribunals or courts except in the case of foreign wars.

f—In addition to the right to vote, political rights shall include the following:

the people's right to initiate laws and constitutional reforms;

plebiscite and referendum in those cases where, by virtue of their far-reaching social importance, they deserve to be submitted to the opinion of the citizenry in accordance with laws regulating such rights.

The right of petition for all inhabitants of the national territory before all authorities of the Republic.

g—Effective protection of all basic rights and guarantees shall be established by means of their immediate application, without the need for any law to regulate them and the institution of the appeal for the protection of constitutional rights.

II. Organs and Functions of the Colombian Government

a—In addition to the legislative, execuutive, and judicial organs, there shall be an electoral organ and Attorney General's Office, which are to be autonomous and independent of the former in carrying out their functions.

b—In addition to the duties of making laws and reforming the constitution, Congress shall oversee the Executive Branch by summoning and removing ministers from office, as well as investigating the conduct of the latter and other high government officials, filing accusations and imposing the proper sanctions, for which purpose the congressional committee responsible for such duties must be regulated in terms of its procedures, terms, technical assistance, and the responsibilities of its members in discharging their duties.

c—Through special committees, Congress shall examine the public conduct of ministers, heads of administrative departments, superintendents and managers or directors of decentralized institutes appointed by the president, and it may oppose their appointment.

d—Congress may not grant the president special powers except for duly established reasons of public interest.

Laws may be initiated by the government, members of Congress, parties not represented in Congress, labor or production associations, and a number of citizens in accordance with procedures to be established by law.

e—In order to ensure the representation of minority political parties and movements in Congress, a set number of members of both chambers shall be elected by a national quota system.

f—All citizens shall elect the president and vice president by the same system, which must win an absolute majority of the voters. If no candidate obtains such a majority, new elections must be held 2 months after the first, limited to the two candidates having won the largest number of votes. The individual with a majority shall be president. The vice president shall replace the president in his permanent or temporary absence and specific administrative duties may be assigned to him.

g—During the first 100 days of his term of office, the president must present his plan of economic and social development, which must be discussed and approved by the Economic and Social Council, made up of representatives of labor and production associations in the manner determined by law.

Intendancies and Commissariats To Become Departments

h—The state of public emergency or state of siege which may be ordered by the president in order to handle situations of extreme gravity seriously threatening the continuity and operation of political institutions shall have a maximum duration of sixty (60) days, but may be extended an equal amount of time by congressional approval. Presidential powers during the state of emergency must be precise and may not suspend or limit individual rights and legal guarantees of individuals with the exception of the right to assembly and circulation of persons and the press. Preeminence shall be granted in any case to international standards of humanitarian law. The Supreme Court shall determine the constitutionality of acts of the president during the state of emergency or siege under the same conditions and terms of Article 121 of the present constitution.

i—Military forces shall not debate policy and in all domains shall be subject to the nation's civil authorities, particularly the ministry of that branch, to be headed by a civilian appointed to the post. Training programs for their members must emphasize the values of democracy, respect for human rights, and tolerance for a diversity of ideas and opinions. Agreements concerning military assistance to foreign governments must be examined and approved by Congress.

The National Police shall be a civilian body for the prevention and prosecution of crimes, independent of military forces, and come directly under the Executive Branch of government.

j—All citizens shall have the right to enjoy access to government administrative posts without distinction as to political creed, race, religion, or sex, and based solely on their aptitude, training, and experience for such public functions in accordance with career standards. The Civil Service Commission, made up independently of the Executive Branch and Congress, shall fill all public administrative posts not elected by the people or not enjoying the immediate confidence of their superior, based on administrative career standards.

k—The judicature shall be exercised by judges and magistrates chosen based on professional standards and without discrimination based on political or religious creeds or discriminatory conditions based on reasons of age or sex.

l—Auxiliary organs and bodies having to do with the administration of justice shall be subject to and at the disposal of judges and magistrates in carrying out their duties. Judges and magistrates may also request the cooperation of the Armed Forces and Police for this purpose, whose action may encounter no opposition or impediment.

m—Electoral functions shall be exercised independently and autonomously by the electoral branch of the government, headed by the supreme electoral tribunal made up of permanent magistrates in proportion to the representation of political parties in congress and by persons who are independent or not affiliated with any political party. In addition to organizing, overseeing, and proclaiming election results, this organization shall recognize political parties, audit the origin and use of their resources, set the maximum cost of political campaigns and of financial contributions made by individuals or corporations, and shall distribute to the parties the repayment of the cost of such campaigns in the manner determined by law.

n—The Attorney General's Office shall be headed by the nation's attorney general, elected by free and secret universal suffrage and to be of a political affiliation different from that of the president. The attorney general shall oversee all public officials, prosecute crimes, and represent society in legal processes in accordance with the law and with absolute independence from other organs of government.

The duties of defending and protecting human rights and constitutional guarantees, as well as those stemming from acting as the citizens' inspectorship, shall be exercised by a special representative of the attorney general. In performing his official duties, he shall have full power to request reports, intervene in actions of protection, speed up investigations, and impose the proper punishments in accordance with the law and with no confidentiality or secrecy standing in his way.

III. Political-Territorial Organization

a—The political-administrative division shall be made up of departments, special districts, and municipalities, based on the categories established for them by law. Existing intendancies and commissariats shall be turned into departments with the same conditions and privileges enjoyed by currently existing departments. In general, the legislative body may create an administrative and financial organization under the national government to advise them. The department shall be headed by a governor elected by free and secret universal suffrage of the inhabitants of that territorial division.

b—The nation's political and administrative sections may handle their own affairs with complete autonomy from the national government, for which purpose they shall enjoy normative, administrative, and fiscal independence through their respective departmental assemblies and district and municipal councils. The national government shall not intervene in the affairs of the departments and municipalities except when authorized to do so by the law and only for the purpose of lending administrative, technical, and financial support to the departmental and local governments or to maintain public order.

The national government shall call elections to form a constituent assembly whose task it shall be to draft the final text of the constitutional reform.

The constituent assembly shall be made up of representatives of parties legally recognized at the time this act of

law is passed, elected by universal suffrage by spokesmen of associations of producers and workers directly elected by their affiliates, and by delegates from the municipalities designated in the manner and following procedures determined by the assembly of all the country's municipal councils meeting for the purpose.

All constituents shall have the same rights, prerogatives, and duties regardless of the origin of their representation.

* PCC Central Committee Meeting Reported

33480285a Bogota VOZ in Spanish 7 Sep 89 p 10

[Unattributed article: "Building a Broad Antifascist Front;" first paragraph is VOZ introduction]

[Text] Violence is on the upswing against all those who defend a political solution for the country. On the pretext of helping to fight drug trafficking, the United States has stepped up its meddling in the country's internal affairs. A broad policy of alliances will not back any accord with political groups connected with narcotics-related paramilitarism. The Patriotic Union (UP) Congress will select its precandidacies and the PCC [Communist Party of Colombia] will carry out its proposals and seek agreements.

On Saturday, 2 September, the Central Committee [CC] of the PCC met in plenary session and made decisions concerning the grave political issues now before the country, solidarity with the people of Panama facing aggression from the U.S. Government, the election campaign, and the presidential precandidacy of the Patriotic Union.

The CC sent a message of enthusiastic solidarity to the daily newspaper EL ESPECTADOR, which that same Saturday, 2 September, had suffered a terrorist attack, and emphasized that the offensive which the government is waging against drug trafficking must strike at the intellectual authors of the dirty war and not be deflected against the people, as is occurring in several places.

Regarding the election campaign, the CC demanded effective guarantees and considered the names of Bernardo Jaramillo and Diego Montana Cuellar as possible presidential precandidates, which might lead to a national candidacy. This is an issue to be decided by the next Patriotic Union Congress to be held in Bogota from 8 to 10 September. The CC asked for a broad debate on the plebiscite, constitutional reform, and the constituent assembly that must introduce the undeferable reforms the country urgently requires.

Climate of Violence

The CC plenary session emphasized the climate of violence characterizing the election campaign, which has also affected national leaders such as Luis Carlos Galan, members of the Judicial Branch, DAS [Administrative Department of Security], the National Police, and the daily newspaper EL ESPECTADOR. The violence is intensifying against all those who defend a political solution for the crisis now facing the country.

The discussion of the communist leaders noted that the government's delayed response to trafficking rings is both too mild and inadequate because it does not touch the cartel bosses who have authored the dirty war and the most recent crimes. The government is ducking the need to purge the Armed Forces of elements linked not only to drug trafficking, but to the dirty war, elements responsible for assassinations of leaders and members of the Communist Party and other people's organizations. It is a proven fact that elements of the Armed Forces and military intelligence have participated in the organization of paramilitary groups and imported the Israeli and British mercenaries who trained the bands of hired killers and taught them the new technique of using car bombs.

Yankee 'Help'

On the pretext of helping in the fight against drug trafficking, the U.S. Government is stepping up its meddling in the internal affairs of the country, in flagrant violation of national sovereignty. In that connection, the communist leaders stated that approving the extradition of Colombians reveals the government's inability to guarantee the application of justice to its nationals. In addition to being a violation of national sovereignty, its enforcement could lend itself to the coarse provocations of revolutionary leaders of which military intelligence and American agents are so fond.

The CC plenary session came out for democratic and progressive constitutional reform. It therefore called for detailed study of the report of Senator Federico Estrada Velez on the proposed constitutional reform, which has positive elements, but warned of others that are quite regressive. Communists and the UP must establish a clear position on the reform, while formulating new proposals improving its content.

Election Campaign and Convergence

The election campaign of communists and the Patriotic Union must be linked to the social struggles of the people, particularly when there is a deepening of the economic and social crisis in the country, the PCC Central Committee noted. In this phase, following the Second Congress of the Patriotic Union, we must organize the election campaign by pointing up the national slogan, scheduling events, and promoting candidates for the democratically chosen collegial bodies. The PCC proposes that the Patriotic Union launch a government program seeking convergence with the broadest possible sectors, which would include a proposal for a political solution to the national crisis, democratization of political and social life, and social measures improving citizens' welfare. This is no obstacle to continuing dialogue and political meetings in search of confluence with precandidates of traditional parties, political parties, the people's labor movement, and other social sectors. Communists are warning the country of the need to open the way for a presidential candidate having the broadest possible democratic backing.

Broad Alliances

The PCC will work for regional coalitions for public corporations, but will never back any alliance with political groups linked with paramilitarism or drug trafficking. There is no room for errors such as the alliance in the Department of Cordoba during the last election campaign, the central report states.

Ecuador

France To Provide Assistance; Grant Loans

PA1410182089 Paris AFP in Spanish 1844 GMT 12 Oct 89

[Text] Quito, 12 Oct (AFP)—This year, France will grant Ecuador a 310 million-franc loan and a non-repayable loan for 20 million. France will also provide technical assistance, and will support Ecuador's struggle against drug traffickers and its efforts to solve Ecuador's foreign debt problem, Presidents Francois Mitterrand and Rodrigo Borja announced today in Quito.

Thus, the French aid to Ecuador in 1989 will total 400 million francs, since France previously agreed to grant loans for 180 million francs to Ecuador.

The announcement was made on 12 October, shortly before Mitterrand concluded his official 2-day visit to Ecuador, where he held a private meeting with Borja—a fellow member of Socialist International—after Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez and Edwige Avice, delegate from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, signed a letter of intention.

From the total loans, 165 million francs will be used for the first phase of a project to rehabilitate the central railroad. The project includes the rehabilitation of 900 km of the railway line between the Ecuadoran mountain range and the Ecuadoran coast, Borja said. He revealed that the loan is to be paid back in 25 years, with a 5-year grace period and low interest rates. He also noted the social significance of the project, in a country with difficult and rugged terrain. The remaining funds will be used to supply potable water to the provinces of Imbabura in the mountain range, and Manabi in the coastal region.

With regard to Ecuador's foreign debt, which exceeds $11 billion, Mitterrand said he is "willing to personally assist," in the study of bilateral agreements to reduce the debt burden, and to intercede before the Paris Club, to which Ecuador owes $400 million.

Mitterrand asked Borja to give him time to study the bilateral agreements on the debt. In this regard, Mitterrand clearly expressed that the debt will not be forgiven. He believes this is an overall problem and is "more dangerous than the atomic bomb," because the countries facing this problem cannot control it." At the same time, Mitterrand asked: "Who can control the misery and the disturbances" this problem will generate?

Mitterrand added that efforts will be made to improve the weak bilateral trade, which in 1988 totalled 321.3 million francs ($50.6 million), with a deficit of 56.5 million francs for Ecuador ($8.9 million).

Mitterrand said French experts will study the possibility of boosting sales of Ecuadoran products to France, especially seafood products such as shrimp, as well as bananas, which France currently buys from African countries. "What we want to do is open new doors," Mitterrand added. However, he insisted on the need to wait for the studies the experts will carry out.

The chiefs of state announced the signing of a cooperation agreement to struggle against drug trafficking, still at an early stage in Ecuador. Through this agreement, signed by Ecuadoran Government Minister Andres Vallejo and French Interior Minister Pierre Joxe, a plan will be drafted to struggle against this scourge. France will provide electronic equipment and other supplies to the Ecuadoran police.

Mitterrand said he thoroughly discussed this problem with Borja, although this is not a specific problem of Ecuador, which is not a producing country, but is used for the transshipment of drugs. He made an appeal to organize a world front to eliminate this scourge. Borja confirmed Mitterrand's statements and added that although Ecuador "is not a drug-producing country, we will not rest," because I believe other countries "began late" in their struggle against this evil.

The two presidents agreed on the need for concerted efforts—among countries producing and consuming drugs, countries used for the transshipment of drugs, and for money laundering—to face this scourge. The two presidents committed their efforts in this respect.

Mitterrand, who upon concluding his visit to Ecuador will make a stopover in Bogota, said that his unscheduled visit to Colombian President Virgilio Barco is "to give open testimony on the solidarity that must be given to the president of such a courageous government.

Finally, Mitterrand noted the benefits of his visit to Ecuador—which he expects to repeat—and the enthusiastic welcoming he received. Borja thanked this "great European and world leader, who is offering his friendship to us," for his visit.

Peru

Presummit Interview With Garcia on Drugs

PY1910023489 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 8 Oct 89 p 10

[Report on "exclusive" interview with President Alan Garcia by correspondent Rosario Abraham "a few days before the Group of Eight Meeting in Ica"; place not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

The Drug Scourge

Regarding the drug trafficking problem, Garcia said: "We have a very clear position on this issue. We have no drug addiction in Peru; our problem stems from a deteriorated agricultural economy caused by U.S. demand. The most productive Peruvian land is not adequately used because the only thing produced is a product whose price is always higher than that of coffee, cocoa, and annatto seeds: the coca leaf. The most serious aspect of this problem concerns youth going astray and starting to consume coca in massive quantities. If the United States is seeking allies to help solve its problems, it should seek these allies intelligently. It is not enough to supply a government with a few old planes and three helicopters. It is much more important to transform a peasant in the Huallaga Valley into an ally in the antinarcotics fight by giving him a guaranteed market for his products, by granting him special customs advantages to introduce the coffee or coca he poduces into the U.S. market, by improving his methods in producing these crops, and by improving transportation of the crops through the creation of a shuttle service similar to those used by the drug traffickers to get coca products out of Peru. It would be better still to build plants to produce instant coffee near the plantations, thereby giving the peasants a market for their products. Any of these solutions would be more intelligent than the ones being adopted. I believe that this is the social alliance to be sought, not by the U.S. Government alone, but by U.S. society as a whole, an alliance with Latin American producers. We understand the good intentions in President Bush's message, but we believe that they are not enough."

Garcia added that, in Peru's case, "the hectares being planted with coca cannot be easily eradicated without leaving the coca growers in absolute misery. We have another problem in the Huallaga region, where peasants who have had their coca plantations eradicated are being drafted by the subversives. When the coca are pulled out of the ground by their roots, the land cannot produce any other crop for a few months or even years. The coca must thus be gradually replaced by other crops. Otherwise we will force the impoverished peasants, who suddenly become misers, to join the subversive movements. What we need to fight the scourge is to treat the problem economically and calmly, and to replace the coca plantations gradually. Regarding the possibility of adopting repressive measures to fight the problem, I must say that we have not asked for any help. It is clear, however, that if it is true that Peru produces 60 percent of all the coca consumed in the world, the $60 million we have been given to help us fight the scourge is not enough. This amount is disproportionate, it is inconceivably insufficient, and it does not seem serious. It is said that drug addiction is the number one problem in the main drug-consuming country. This country, however, which spends $300 billion on weapons, gives a coca-producing country only $60 million in aid... This is illogical. My government, however, does not want a single cent. We are simply saying that this problem is mainly an economic problem. We are saying that, if they really wanted to help, it would cost them very little to build ten plants to freeze-dry coffee; that it would be easy to supply the peasants with higher quality seeds; that customs tariffs should be reduced; and that the cost of air transportation for products from the Huallaga region should be reduced. If these measures are not implemented it is because the United States does not want to do it, because they have a mistaken idea of the problem, or because the United States wants to adopt the comfortable position of saying 'take this charity and do whatever you can with it.' Is it better to spend $8 billion on prisons just because the United States has decided to assign only $60 million to the coca-producing countries, thus allowing the drug traffickers to become bolder—as they have already? We are saying logical and truthful things instead of simply hearing and obeying, as the poor countries are supposed to do."

Potential Danger

The Peruvian president said: "The Group of Eight is interested in the drug issue because this issue represents a potential danger to all of its member countries. Coca plantations have been found near Maracaibo in Venezuela; this type of plantation is also a threat in Ecuador and Brazil, and can be found in Colombia. This is a priority issue for the Group of Eight. The group must also study how and why the work of a Latin American government—which is built with dollars counted one by one—ends up benefiting other countries. The land of the Huallaga region, where Peruvian presidents such as Belaunde Terry invested large amounts to produce food and to join the other Peruvian regions dedicated to growing this type of product, is now producing drugs for the huge U.S. drug-consuming market. These consumers are benefiting from the highway that crosses the Peruvian jungle area and from the other roads built by the previous administrations."

Garcia explained: "This is why it is important for the Group of Eight to give priority to the economic and mass-action aspects of the drug problem. The group must also emphasize that the dialogue, the erradication and replacement programs, and the programs to reduce drug trafficking—which must be drafted with concrete goals—must include talks with the European countries. Europe must be included for several reasons. First, because it is an alternative market. If drug consumption is reduced in the United States, consumption will increase in Europe, which is potentially a large consumer. Second, for political reasons. Drug trafficking has always bee connected with extremist and radical movements, as has occurred in Colombia and is now occurring in Peru. Therefore, linking the fight against drug trafficking to the United States alone can have negative results. We need international, European help to fight drug trafficking. Otherwise we will convert the drug traffickers into anti-imperialist champions.

President Garcia Discusses Police Strike, Economy

PY1810223589 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Oct 89

[News conference held by President Alan Garcia with unidentified reporters during an inspection of agriculture equipment to be distributed to peasant communities

in the interior of the country; date and place not given; monitored in progress—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Garcia] ... it is regrettable that there are some police officers who are not aware of their duties, especially in these times. If the instruments of order and security are allowed to commit these kinds of excesses, no matter how small, we would be very concerned and would have to react energetically.

I understand that 26 of the police officers who were detained and identified yesterday were passed on to retirement. I am sure that as the investigations continue there will be more officers dismissed.

According to the Constitution, all of us have the right to state our opinion, to mobilize, and to go on strike, except for the Peruvian Armed Forces and the national police, because it is their duty to comply with the orders of the national democratic authorities.

[Reporter] What kind of people have infiltrated the police institution? Are the people behind this strike connected to those who promoted the strike 2 years ago?
[Garcia] As far as we know, some of those who were not dismissed from the force after the large, dangerous strike in April 1987 have been found. There probably is a subversive factor. The terrorists are obviously seeking to infiltrate these institutions, which are so important in the defense of democracy.

However, there are also some police officers who do not obey orders, who got carried away with the strike, and who are confused. If they had been ordinary people, they could have marched down to the Labor Ministry to protest. However, members of the national police or the Peruvian Army must obey the political authorities. Therefore, this kind of strike is not possible. The Constitution clearly states that the Armed Forces and the national police cannot question or give opinions.

I approve of the Interior Ministry's measures to prepare antiriot groups to dissolve any kind of disorderly demonstration, to detain this small group of rebels, to immediately dismiss them from the force, and to place them at the disposal of the military court. Officers accept certain conditions when they join the National Police.

[Reporter] How many police officers will be passed to retirement?
[Garcia] As many as is necessary. In fighting against the terrible Shining Path enemy and defending democracy and the candidates, we cannot allow anyone carrying the nation's weapons and wearing uniforms to commit excesses and to lead the way toward insurrection and disorder.

I do not have the exact figures, but the government's decision is to proceed with absolute strictness, not only in dismissing these men from the force, but by trying them and making them serve prison sentences according to the law.

[Reporter] Do you think the wage increase announced by the Interior Ministry will satisfy the expectations of the police officers?
[Garcia] I am sure that no Peruvian is satisfied with what he earns. No one who works for television or for the newspapers, either in the private or public sector, is satisfied. The crisis is affecting us all.

However, the police cannot deny that we have made an effort for them in consideration of the fact that they put their lives on the line. You know that the Shining Path does not kill public employees, but rather policemen.

Now, the increase in the officers' pay to defend them from the economic crisis does not defend them from death. It is, however, a way to improve their situation and to give them greater psychological stability.

The ministry has announced a 35-percent salary increase for a month in which we hope that inflation will not be over 20 percent. This increase will compensate for this month's inflation and for any lag in previous months.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] wish that this type of critical situation no longer occurs, especially with the upcoming elections, because it would be terrible.
[Garcia] It would be both terrible and unacceptable. I should stress, however, that contrary to what happened in 1987, the loyalty, democratic conscience, and professionalism of each Peruvian police officer has prevailed on this occasion. I cannot blame the Peruvian police for an absurd and scandalous attempt by the very small group that tried to promote disorder yesterday. I am absolutely convinced that every Peruvian officer knows that democracy, the elections, and our future depend on them.

[Reporter] Mr President, no official figures have been released yet on salaries and wage increases.
[Garcia] Let's first look at salary increase in the public sector. There are 541,000 central administration employees and a large number of employees in other sectors, totaling almost 800,000, including the police and the Armed Forces. Retired workers also live on the state. It should be admitted that ministry and state corporation employees have been worst hit by the crisis. When the economy was adjusted last year, the state had to reduce spending. To do this the state had to freeze or slow down the implementation of projects and reduce the purchasing power of salaries. This is why the purchasing power of public servants has deteriorated substantially. I believe this problem should be solved with both prudence and boldness by improving their purchasing power. I know that they are the ones who have shouldered the heaviest burden of the crisis. This has had a negative effect on the economy; if 541,000 public servants decrease their consumption, industrial production obviously has to decrease and industries produce less. The public sector is a key factor in boosting consumption and production and promoting reactivation.

Last year we had to reduce consumption and public servant salaries so that the industries could reduce their production and thus use fewer dollars. Things have

changed. This year our reserves grew by $1.1 billion. We can substantially increase the salaries of public servants to increase their consumption, so that they may improve the food they eat, the shoes they wear, the shirts they buy, and their children's uniforms. The industrial sector will be reactivated if there are 500,000 or 600,000 salaried workers increasing their consumption. This will guarantee the creation of more jobs for Peruvians, the appropriate processing of our cotton, and the appropriate use of the dollars we have at the Central Bank.

This is how the economy works. The salaries earned by public servants are a key factor in increasing consumption and reactivating production. This is why the economy minister this month made a courageous, necessary, and bold decision to grant a salary increase—which in many cases will be over 50 percent—to the larger sectors of the administration that have been most badly hit by the crisis. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] number of victims of the Shining Path could hinder the normal implementation of the upcoming municipal and general elections?
[Garcia] Not at all, not at all. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Will stricter security measures be adopted in the emergency zones and in Lima?
[Garcia] There was a police protest attempt yesterday because, as the minister put it, we have 85,000 police officers whose salaries and food must be paid for by the state. If we want to enforce stricter security measures we may have to double the number of troops. Are all Peruvians willing to pay for it? We are all protesting because of the economic crisis. We all say that public servant salaries must be increased. We all say that prices should be lower. Yet we fail to realize that we are also demanding greater efforts, twice the number of policemen, and increased salaries for them. The dramatic side of the situation is that Peru is simultaneously confronted with several serious problems. It is not easy to say that we will redouble our efforts. We should buy 50 new helicopters. How much will they cost? Are we willing to pay for them through increased power and telephone rates, through higher food prices and lower salaries? I believe this is the first decision that must be made by all Peruvians, whatever the next administration. [passage omitted]

Uruguay

Sanguinetti, Perez Sign Joint Declaration

PY1910035489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0218 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Oct (EFE)—Uruguayan and Venezuelan Presidents Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Carlos Andres Perez expressed "serious concern" today over the situation in Panama, saying that "the situation must be resolved by the Panamanians themselves through democratic mechanisms and strict respect for international law."

This statement is part of the joint declaration signed today before the conclusion of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez' 24-hour visit to Uruguay.

The two presidents also expressed their desire to contribute to strengthening the democracies of Latin America, and their hope that "before the end of this century democracy will prevail in the entire region."

Regarding Central America, Sanguinetti and Perez emphasized the results of the "summit" of presidents held in Tela (Honduras) because they "will contribute to establishing a firm and lasting peace and strengthening democracy, development, and security in the region."

Uruguay and Venezuela are members of the Group of Eight. Panama has been temporarily suspended because of its internal situation.

The two presidents criticized the "negative effects" the developing countries experience due to the protectionist policies and subsidies of the industrialized countries, which make it difficult to gain access to their markets.

The two presidents emphasized the need to reactivate the North-South dialogue, which should include social and enviromental issues, and the struggle against drug addiction.

Regarding the foreign debt, they pointed out the principle of equal responsibility between debtors and creditors and the need for a political agreement "to get a substantial reduction of the debt and its interest." They also advocated agreements to create new resources for development.

They also reaffirmed that "gradual and balanced integration is the basic goal of Latin America." They agreed on the need to strengthen the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

Regarding bilateral relations, Perez told EFE that "it is necessary to get away from rhetoric and to strengthen trade, science, and technology."

Within the framework of his agenda, the Venezuelan president had breakfast with representatives of the Uruguayan Chamber of Industries to define "concrete exchange agreements."

Sanguinetti and Perez have also signed an agreement for cooperation in the field of tourism. The agreement is aimed at increasing the number of tourists in the two countries.

"Whenever they travel, Venezuelan tourists choose to visit Europe or the United States. We want to incrase tourist exchange with other Latin American countries to our mutual benefit," President Perez said.

The Venezuelan president has left Uruguay to visit Suriname on the last leg of his tour of South America, which also included Bolivia and Argentina.

Venezuela's Perez Departs for Suriname 18 Oct

PY1810180489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1505 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Oct (EFE)—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez today concluded an official 24-hour visit to Uruguay. He has now gone to Suriname, the last stopover in his tour of several Latin American countries.

In Montevideo, the Venezuelan chief of state met with his Uruguayan colleague, Julio Maria Sanguinetti, with whom he signed a joint declaration.

During his stay in Uruguay, Perez lunched with eight presidential candidates who will run in the November elections, addressed a joint session of Congress, received the keys of Montevideo, and visited the seat of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

The Venezuelan president is on a tour of Latin American countries that started in Bolivia, from where he went to Argentina, Uruguay, and now to his last stopover in Suriname, before returning to Caracas.

Suriname

Venezuela's Perez Arrives for 2-Day State Visit

FL1810221589 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez arrived in Suriname today on a 2-day state visit as part of [word indistinct] tour of Latin America. The Venezuelan president has earlier visited Peru, Bolivia, and Uruguay. The visit of President Carlos Andres Perez comes in the wake of strengthening bilateral relations between Suriname and Venezuela, and in support of regional integration. The visit must also contribute to the strengthening of the democratic process in Latin America. The Venezuelan head of state first visited Suriname in 1978.

The 30-man strong Venezuelan delegation headed by President Perez will return to Venezuela tomorrow.

Bouterse Wants Illegally Armed Groups Disbanded

FL1810230289 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] The chairman of the military authority, Commander Desi Bouterse, has asked President Shankar in a letter to execute the plan which was submitted earlier for the disbanding of illegally armed groups.

The plan was submitted to the president by the military authority in July last and was aimed at that time to the disarming and disbanding of the Brunswijk Gang. The disbanding plan should remain in its present form, but must now be extended to all armed groups which operate illegally in the country, says Commander Bouterse in his letter. The letter further states that all these groups should surrender their weapons within a fixed period of time and [word indistinct] themselves to the legal authority. If this doesn't happen, then they should face the consequences, says Bouterse.

The leader of the military authority points out in his letter to the president that it is impossible to govern the country because of the increased terrorist activities in the country.

Over 1,000 Participate in Demonstration

FL1810211289 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] Some 1,000 people yesterday morning participated in a demonstration in support of the government's policy. The demonstrators carried banners and placards with slogans condemning the use of violence, urging the government to take strong action. The demonstrators were also demanding the immediate implementation of the accord between the government and the Brunswijk Gang.

The peaceful demonstration ended at the presidential palace where President Ramsewak Shankar briefly addressed the participants. The demonstration was organized by, among others, the Organization for Justice and Peace and the national unions. The pro-government demonstration followed on the [word indistinct] of accord by the state council for mobilization of the people in connection with the current crisis situation in the country.